Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A computer readable memory medium comprising

a data area for storing data in the form of marks, in which the data is encoded by means of a channel code, wherein a parameter of the channel code is controlled so as to introduce a predetermined run length distribution in the marks on the computer readable memory medium, thereby introducing first information relating to a visually discernable watermark, wherein at least a portion of the first information is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium in the data area without a device to discern the first information, and

a non-data area comprising second information relating to the visually discernable watermark, wherein at least a portion of the second information is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium in the non-data area without a device to discern the second information,

the first and the second information together forming the visually discernable watermark, wherein the visually discernable watermark is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium without a device discerning the visually discernable watermark.

2.   (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and the second information forming the visually discernable watermark are visually aligned on the computer readable memory medium with respect to each other without a device to discern the visual alignment.

3.   (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first and the second information is visually orientated on the computer readable memory medium with respect to each other, without a device to discern the visual orientation, using position information present in the non-data area.

4.   (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 2, wherein the computer readable memory medium

further comprises angle information indicating a <u>visually</u> <u>discernable</u> predetermined angle<u> on the computer readable memory</u> <u>medium without a device to discern the predetermined angle</u> between the first information and the second information.

5. (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 4, wherein the <u>visually discernable</u> predetermined angle is used as authentication information.

6. (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-data area is both of an inner-ring area and an outer-ring area<u> and wherein the visually</u> <u>discernable second information is visually discernable on the</u> <u>computer readable memory medium in both the inner-ring area and the</u> <u>outer-ring area without a device to discern the visually</u> <u>discernable second information</u>.

7. (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-data area is a <u>visually</u> <u>discernable</u> graphics band, <u>a visually discernable</u> text band, <u>a</u> <u>visually discernable</u> matrix band or a <u>visually discernable</u>

identification band that is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium without a device.

8. (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second information comprises at least one of picture and text information that is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium without a device.

9. (Currently amended) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, the data area comprising a pattern of substantially parallel tracks that is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium without a device, wherein the predetermined run length distribution is correlated from track to track, so that the first information is visually detectable.

10. (Previously presented) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein a portion of the first information is non-visually detectable.

11. (Previously presented) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, in which the channel code is the EFM channel code as used for the CD Digital Audio disc, wherein the parameter is the choice of merging bits.

12. (Previously presented) The computer readable memory medium as claimed in claim 1, wherein the parameter is the choice between channel words for information words from alternative tables, for example, information words 1 up to and including 88 in the EFM+ channel code as used in DVD, or the choice between sync words or the choice between states.

13. (Currently amended) A method of providing a watermark on a computer readable memory medium, the method comprising acts of:

receiving uncoded data,

receiving first information relating to the watermark, which first information is to be provided in the encoded data,

receiving second information relating to the watermark, which second information is to be provided in a non-data area,

encoding the uncoded data to encoded data by means of a channel code, in which a parameter of the channel code is

controlled under the influence of the first information relating to the watermark for introducing a predetermined run length distribution in the marks on the computer readable memory medium,

storing the encoded data on the computer readable memory medium to render the watermark visually discernable in a data area, wherein at least a portion of the encoded data is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium in the data area without a device to discern the portion of the encoded data,

storing the second information in the non-data area to render the watermark visually discernable in the non-data area on the computer readable memory medium, wherein the watermark is visually discernable on the computer readable memory medium without a device discerning the watermark.